

4-12-1816

## Letter from John P. Finley to James B. Finley

John P. Finley

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Dayton April 12<sup>th</sup> 1844

My Dear James } Last week I received a letter  
from you stating that you had purchased in  
the Town of Steubenville a residence for you  
and I and also a request for me to come  
by the first of May and shelter under the  
hospitable dwelling. I could not tell at  
first what to write as I had partly declined  
all idea of going to the Eastward and  
had some expectation of getting the cashing  
place for the company of which I wrote  
you in my last. But upon the whole I have  
concluded to move to your Town if you  
think the time of my coming will not be too  
late. I have spent some days in the forming  
the company but finding so much  
quibbling for self interest among the  
Methodists I declined all idea of having  
any thing to do with it. I am very certain  
they will do me good. And to stay here  
I cannot even think of it on the account of  
its being unhealthy. Attho I can live here as  
well as any where if it was healthy and could  
pay up something for my family.



I am certain I could pay for one half of your purchase in two years from the finances of a school of common magnitude if I were there and could have health. My expenditures resulting from sickness since I came here including Doctor's bill, house rent and loss of time will amount to \$300 nearly. and I have not been here quite two years yet. It will be out of my power to move as soon as you mentioned in your last on the account of Sally. She in her situation could never stand the journey, and the roads so bad that I could not get along. I have already begun to arrange my business for the journey and will, I think without fail no preventing providence be in your Town by the first of August at the furthest. Sally is uncommonly anxious for such a move. If you think I cannot make out by coming later than you requested me I want you to communicate it in your next letter. You should consider that a man with a family cannot pull up his stakes and go at a moment's warning he must have time. If I move to your Town I should like to have a school of all Latin and Grammar scholars if such an one could be obtained. I hope to hear from you shortly after the reception of this letter.